2. Grant-in-aid to the Voluntary Organisations for the welfare of Scheduled Castes.
3. Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Area.
4. Grant-in-aid to the Voluntary Organisations for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes.
5. Educational Complex in low literacy pockets for development of ST girls in Tribal Areas.

(b) and (c) For construction of hostels for students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes 50% Central assistance is released to the State Government under the following schemes:—

1. Scheduled Caste Boys' Hostels
2. Scheduled Caste Girls' Hostels
3. Scheduled Tribe Boys' Hostels
4. Scheduled Tribe Girls' Hostels

Under the Central Sector Scheme of Special Educational Development Programme for SC girls belonging to very low literacy levels and Scheme of Educational Complex in low literacy pockets for development of ST girls in Tribal Areas, 100% grant-in-aid is provided for running residential schools. NGOs are provided 90% grant-in-aid for running residential schools for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. For establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Areas 50% Central assistance is provided to the concerned State Government for construction purposes.

Stipends to meritorious poor students

597. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme to support the meritorious students belonging to the poor families in the form of stipends;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have any plan to sanction money for building hostels for such meritorious students; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Welfare of destitute children and women

598. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme for the welfare of destitute children and women;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the assistance extended by Government for implementation of the aforesaid scheme during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is implementing the following schemes for the welfare of destitute children;

(i) An Integrated Programme for Street Children; and

(ii) A Programme for Juvenile Justice.

Under the scheme mentioned at (i) above, upto 90% financial assistance is provided to eligible Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for establishing drop in shelters for children without homes and family ties namely Street Children and children especially vulnerable to abuse and exploitation such as children of sex workers and children of pavement dwellers. Under the scheme at (ii) above, meant for neglected and delinquent juvenils, upto 50% financial assistance is provided to State Government for construction and maintenance of Observation Homes, Juvenile Homes, Special Homes and After Care Homes established under the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986. The State-wise details of assistance extended to NGOs and State Governments under the aforesaid two schemes during the last three years is given in the enclosed Statement I and II.